(c) No, Sir. Extension of this project in other cities will help farmers also.

(d) No, Sir. At present Government is not proposing to hold an independent CAG audit of Fruit and Vegetable Projects, Delhi before its extension to other cities.

Representations from mazdoors of the National Fertilizers Ltd., Panipat

125 SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government have received any representations regarding the problem of Mazdoors of the National Fertilizer Limited, Panipat who were terminated in 1983 and are agitating for reinstatement;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by Government thereon; and

(c) whether the Industrial Tribunal had given any judgement in this connection and if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH): (a) to (c) The Mazdoors involved were actually contract lobourers of different contractors engaged by NFL In June, 1983 these labourers went on an illegal strike and the contractors made alternative arrangements to discharge their contractual obligations A Writ Petition was filed before the Supreme Court praying that the contract labourers employed at the Panipat factory should be declared as regular employees of the Company but the Court dismissed the petition

In 1987, an industrial dispute on the subject was raised and the matter has been referred by the Government of Haryana to the Industrial Tribunal, Ambala, for adjudication The Tribunal has not yet given its award.

Re-instatement of railway employees terminated during the Trade Union agitations

126 SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the previous Government had taken a decision to reinstate all those railway employees whose services were terminated during the past few years in connection with the trade union agitation; and

(b) if so, whether orders have been issued for implementation of the said decision, and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) In view of (a) above, the question of implementation does not arise. However, the entire matter is under consideration

Extension of Railway network

127. SHRI R T GOPALAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state·

(a) whether Government propose to extend the railway network by 1000 km. every year;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the additional capital involved per annum; and

(c) the zone-wise break up of such extension and the share of zones covering Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA). (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise

Modernisation of Railway Stations in Tamil Nadu

128 SHRI R T GOPALAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state·

(a) the number of railway stations modernised and expanded in Tamil Nadu during the last three years and the amount spent thereon; and

(b) whether some other stations are to be modernised and expanded during the current year, if so, the amount allocated therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) (a) 25 Railway Stations at a cost of Rs. 180 69 lakh.

(b) During the current year work of modernisation expansion of 20 Station buildings has been undertaken An outlay of Rs 85 78 lakh is provided for this work in 1990-91

Food poisoning deaths in Basti (UP)

129. SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the recent food poisoning deaths in Basti was due to a pesticide viz Gammaxene (BHC), and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to prevent such incidents and to compensate the dependents of the victims?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JAYANTILAL VIRCHANDBHAI SHAH) (a) As per the report received from the State Government of Uttar Pradesh their preliminary investigation has shown that the deaths in Basti had occurred due to accidental mixing of Benzene Hexa Chloride (BHC) with the wheat-floor, used for making 'Purris'.

(b) The Government is aware of the fact that the pesticides are toxic in nature and can cause death and other associated hazards due to pesticide poisoning if not handled properly It is, therefore, the policy and the endeavour of the Government, to register only those pesticides whose efficacy and safety are proved Being toxic in nature pesticides have to be used judiciously in accordance with the prescribed detailed instructions and after observing well laid down safety precautions In this strategy training of the State Government functionaries and farmers in the safe and proper handling of the pesticides has been given due emphasis. To regulate the import, manufacture and use of insecticides an Act, known as Insecticides Act, was promulgated in 1968 Under the Insecticides Rule, 1971, framed under the said Act, detailed guidelines have been laid down regarding the information/instructions to be printed on labels and leaflets accompanying the containers of pesticides These include precautions for its use, safety measures to be taken, symptoms of poisoning, first-aid measures, treatment etc in three languages i e English, Hindi and one of the regional languages Since, deaths have occured either due to improper usage by the users, accidental exposure in usage, accidental contamination of pesticides with food or water or deliberate suicide by the person, these are not due to any lacunae in the regulations However, Government are re-emphasising education training of farmers in the safe and proper handling of the pesticides There is no proposal at present to compensate the dependants of the victims of such incidents

List of plants possessing pesticidal properties

130 SHRI SHAMIM HASHMI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state

(a) whether a list of the indigenous plants claimed to possess pesticidal properties has been compiled indicating the source of supply and if so, the details thereof; and

(b) if not, whether a report would be compiled at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JAYANTILAL VIRCHANDBHAI SHAH) (a) Yes, Sir The compilation was brought out on the occasion of the National Symposium on